

Finance Committee Meeting March 9th 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:00PM. Present were Mr. Zukauskas, Mr. Yohalem, Mr. Imberman, Mr. Dowling and Mrs. Spaulding. Guests were Ms. Tara White selectman, and Mr. Michael Skorput.

Minutes for March 3rd were accepted as read, Mr. Dowling 1st, Mr. Zukauskas 2nd unanimously accepted.

Mr. Zukauskas shared his concern about the passing of budgets including the 2% increase, stating that he still wished to discuss the use of merit raises with the selectmen. The selectmen had been unable to attend this meeting and the group decided that the Finance Committee should ask Mr. Skorput to put place them on the agenda for the next selectmen's meeting Monday March 14th. The group then reviewed the letter that had gone to the selectmen on March 26th 2010 in which our concerns were expressed.

The request for a transfer of \$5,000 from the Reserve fund to the **Town Hall Account** 10192.70 was made. The Town Hall Account has at present a balance of \$968.10. Mr. Yohalem asked if this sum would last throughout the remainder of the fiscal year. Mr. Skorput stated that he hoped with the warming weather there would be less fuel used and the money would last longer... A motion was made Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Zukauskas 2nd and passed unanimously.

The following budgets were reviewed:

Building Inspector Salary 60241.04 (\$17,546) with 2 % increase [\$17,897] Mr. Zukauskas 1st, Mrs. Spaulding 2nd passed unanimously.

Emergency Management 60291.00 (\$600) now requesting [\$1000], a brief discussion centered upon what exactly does this department do? Mr. Zukauskas stated that theoretically all the departments in the town, like police, fire, selectmen etc should be working together to have plans in place should there ever be a major disaster. Those serving on the Emergency Management are required by federal law to take different training course which will use this money up and then perhaps require more. This department has some "carry-over" money that will provide funds for some of the training if necessary. Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Zukauskas 2nd passed unanimously.

Animal Control Officers Expenses 60293.78 (\$975) now requesting [\$1,075] {this budget item pays a part of the Animal Control Officer's health insurance}. Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Zukauskas 2nd passed unanimously.

Animal Control Officer Salary 60293.00 (1,600) now requesting [\$1,700] Mr. Imberman 1st Mr. Zukauskas 2nd passed unanimously.

Assessor's Computer Contingency 10141.4 (\$5,234) level funded [\$5,234] {this budget covers both the Point Program (motor vehicles) and Kapinos (Real estate and personnel property taxes)} Mr. Imberman 1st, Mr. Dowling 2nd passed unanimously.

Assessor's Consultant 10141.77 (\$5,000) level funded [\$5,000] covers the cost when someone contests their abatement and the situation goes to Appellate Court. Mr. Zukauskas 1st, Mr. Imberman 2nd passed unanimously.

Stabilization 90100.00 (\$10,000) now requesting [\$10,000] {this sum may be increased on the Town Meeting floor and now has a balance of about \$250,000. It can only be released with a 2/3 vote at a Town Meeting.} Mr. Zukauskas 1st, Mr. Imberman 2nd passed unanimously.

Assessors Salaries 10141.00 (\$6,000) now requesting [\$6,300] placed on HOLD.

The members of the Finance Committee plan to attend the selectmen's meeting to discuss merit salaries and other budgetary matters.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will take place at 7:00PM on March 17th

Respectfully submitted

Prudence Spaulding Secretary.

Prudence Spaulding
March 10th 2011